

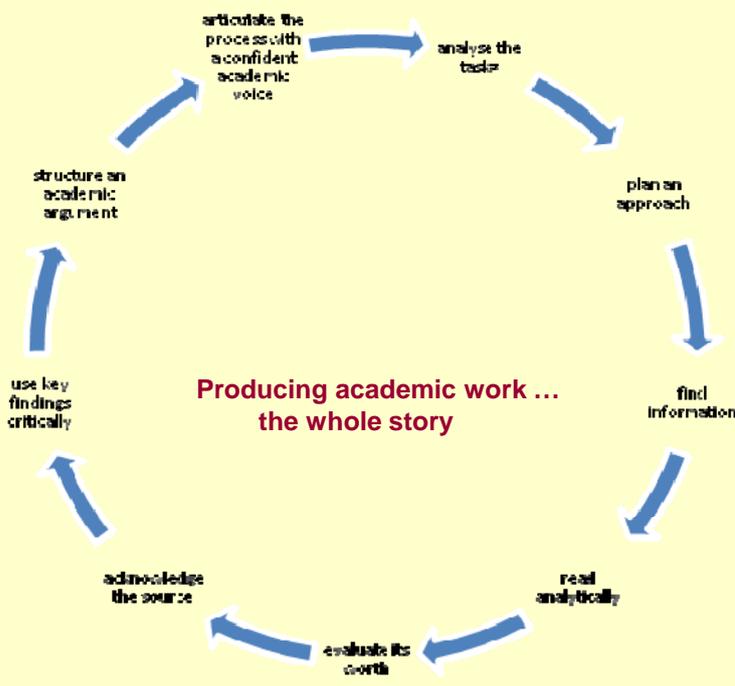
## 'Learning developers and librarians working together'

### Aims / purpose

- To promote the synergy between learning developers and librarians
- To develop collaborative approaches that support student engagement with learning and assessment

### Description

- This project looks to further the notion of 'Learning Development' within a whole institutional approach to supporting student learning.
- Together learning developers and librarians can tell students the 'whole story' about engaging in academic tasks,
- It is intended to develop a collaborative approach that will enhance the student learning experience at DMU .
- The focus will be generic activities delivered centrally, bespoke activities provided at the heart of the curriculum, and resources that reflect the coherence of this approach
- It is intended to use Teacher Fellow funds to share the development of this approach with the higher education sector.



### Outcomes

- **In March 2008** Mary Pillai (Centre for Learning and Study Support) and Kaye Towlson (Subject Librarian) co-delivered a Round Table Discussion at the Association of Learning Development in Higher Education (ALDHE) national symposium. The focus was '*Encouraging students to research, communicate and have confidence in, their own opinions: the joint role of library services and learning development*'.
- **In June 2008 the Kimberlin Library** hosted a free Open House event for learning developers and librarians across the sector (including Ireland). 30 librarians and 30 learning developers attended. This was a direct outcome from the level of interest produced by the input at the ALDHE Symposium
- **Additionally CLaSS hosted separate visits** from Learning Development staff from Staffordshire University and Birmingham City University
- **Library Services hosted two successful internal events:**
  - **September 2007 - 'Focus on Supporting your Students'** – a joint Library/Student Services event targeting personal tutors. Approximately 60 staff attended.
  - **June 2008 'Developing seamless support for learning – working in partnership with the Library and Student Services'** . Another joint Library/Student Services event, this time focussed on integrating support from librarians, learning developers and Student Services colleagues into the curriculum. Approximately 50 staff attended.
- **In June 2008** the Society of College, National and University Libraries (SCONUL) requested an article on our collaborative work for SCONUL Focus, which is to be published later this year.

### Benefits for students

Seamless support for academic assignments:

- *Increased confidence in approaching assessment*
- *Wider research*
- *More likely to use critical approaches*
- *Developing an 'academic voice'*

### Benefits for staff

Contextualised support for assignment tasks  
 Efficient use of curriculum time

### Benefits for the University

Cost effective use of resources  
 Support for students in their transition to and through higher education

### What next?

- Surrey University have requested a staff development workshop to be delivered in December 2008
- Subject librarians and CLaSS team will build on this year's activities to further develop
  - shared activities and approaches - delivered centrally
  - Increasingly converged inputs to the curriculum
- Joint Library /Student Services events to be offered annually